



Mary Lazaretti
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July 8, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to voice my opposition for the proposed high-voltage transmission lines being routed through Holden Township. After my youngest child moved out a few years ago, my husband and I couldn't wait to leave city life behind and retire to the peaceful and serene countryside of southern Minnesota where he had grown up. After nearly 15 years of searching, we came across the property for sale. We immediately knew that this was the place where we would want to live. The 200+ acres of quiet, pristine woodland combined with the character of the late 19th century farmhouse created the perfect environment to lay down our roots for this new era of our lives, an era that we both envisioned being our happiest. The property has a valley that harbors a stream and a wide variety of wildlife that comforts both of us, particularly in this age of environmental decline. Knowing that we are doing something to help with preservation and to save the world that we leave to our children is very important to us.

When we first moved down to the area, we began our work restoring the 1890's farmhouse, paying meticulous attention to keeping the historic character of the building. The farmhouse is almost complete and we are planning to move into the home later this year. Needless to say when we heard CapX 2020 was planning to run high-voltage transmission lines directly over the top of our home, our hearts and spirits were crushed. The anguish that we feel stems not only from the undoing of the past 2½ years spent restoring the farmhouse, it runs far deeper than that. Moving to the countryside, finding this quiet, unspoiled sanctuary and transforming it into a home has truly been the realization of our lifelong dreams. So to say that the proposed transmission lines undo several years of hard work is a vast understatement. It undoes the fulfillment of years of aspirations. Unfortunately, at our age we don't have another 15 years in us to spend looking for another dream spot and refurbishing it.

When there is already an existing corridor available along Highway 52 for a utility such as this, we cannot understand why CapX2020 has chosen a route that adds nearly 17 miles to the proposed route, encumbers small farms for those farmers already struggling to maintain their way of life, and razes sensitive forest and wetland areas in a part of the state where these natural resources would be best preserved.

Sincerely,
Mary Lazaretti

I-274-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

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